

Catholic Theatre Conference

PRODUCTION CALENDAR

Vol. 8

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No. 11

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NOTE

Two years on the job and we're still learning! Checking the constitution on several points we found that it calls for publication of only nine issues of the Production Calendar, i.e., October through May with a mid-summer issue. We have been publishing these plus a June and a September one for a total of eleven.

With the thought in mind of adhering to the constitution and also saving some money (each issue costs over \$50.00 for mimeographing plus postage) we were going to omit the September issue this fall. In assembling the material for the October one, however, we had such an abundance of material that we have divided it into a September and an October for less bulkiness in mailing. We decided you would rather have all the news.

Now if six members will each send in one new member we can defray the expense of the extra issue and still try to balance our top-heavy budget!

Incidentally, when sending in new memberships or interesting potential new members don't forget the one dollar registration fee in addition to the ten dollars annual dues.

CONVENTION REPORT

The Summer issue of the Calendar carried many items covered during the convention as well as Mr. Lavery's article, "Convention Recollections". The 1949-50 BULLETIN will carry a more detailed account as reported by our new Publicity Director, Judson LaHaye, Assistant Chairman of Fordham University Radio Division and Assistant Manager of its FM station, WFUV.

In the following pages of the Calendar are included a few more reports and items of interest to members such as attendance report by regions, membership report, human interest items, etc.

REGIONAL BENEFITS

One of the most important accomplishments of the convention business meetings was the realization on the part of the delegates of the expenses involved in operating the Service Bureau, especially in operating it to its fullest efficiency. New equipment was a necessity as well as additional help either on a full time or part time basis. Working from 9:00 A.M. to 10 and 11 and sometimes midnight Mondays through Saturdays and taking home work over Sunday has not been enough to enable one person to handle the volume of detail occasioned by the increased membership.

Operating overhead has become greater during the years with the increase in printing bills, stationery, etc., especially the increased postage rates that went into effect the first of the year. Parcel post rates alone are over 23% higher thus increasing

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REGIONAL BENEFITS (cont'd.)

considerably the overhead in sending out scripts to members, one of the main functions of the Service Bureau.

Reports from the secretary and exhortations from Father Schroeder, presiding officer at the business meeting, resulted in Mrs. Elvira Bujarski of Wichita, West-Central Region, spearheading the plan to put the Conference on its own financial feet. In the name of Rev. Robert A. Johnston, S.J., chairman of the region, Mrs. Bujarski pledged their region to a \$500.00 benefit! Congratulations on her courage and enthusiasm in starting the ball rolling!

Other Regional Chairmen were quick to follow her leadership and in quick succession came similar pledges from Sister Charitas, chairman of North-Central Region; Rev. Anthony Juliano, Pacific North-west; Sister Angelita and Father Schroeder, Central Region; Sister Maria Ancilla in name of Sister Alicette, New England Region.

Miss Cyr McMillan of Catholic Theatre Guild of San Francisco pledged their assistance to new Pacific Southwest Regional Chairman, when named by new Board, in helping to promote a benefit and to promote the Conference in general by increased memberships.

Edgar L. Kloten, chairman of Mid-Atlantic Region, pledged his area to a benefit. Members from other regions whose chairmen were not present promised to relay to them information of the pledges and encourage them to do likewise.

We realize these individuals have assumed a big responsibility. May God bless their enthusiastic and untiring efforts. And may each one of their regional members do their utmost to assist them in fulfilling their pledges.

The new fiscal year begins October 1st making 1949-50 dues payable then. Any member failing for two months to pay dues shall be deemed lapsed.

PLAYLISTING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

The new Executive Board appointed Rev. Karl Schroeder as chairman of the Playlisting Committee to sparkplug the work entailed in compiling the long-needed supplement to the graded Play List. The Service Bureau library contains many scripts not covered in the old list.

Father Schroeder was empowered to select his own committee to assist him in this huge task.

CONVENTION ATTENDANCE REPORT

Region:

Central	42
Canadian	13
East-Central	19
Mid-Atlantic	7
Mountain	4
New England	15
North Central	7
Pacific Northwest	6
Pacific Southwest	285
Southern	3
West-Central	15
Total.	416

This was the total registered for attendance at the entire convention. Individuals attending just occasional sessions or the productions in the evenings swelled the attendance to the 700 and 800 figures.

REGIONAL BENEFIT IDEA

During the discussion on benefits Sister Mary Xavier, B.V.M., made the valuable suggestion of a number of schools or groups in a given area uniting to book in a benefit performance of Catholic University Players' MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING. So often it is the case where directors find it difficult to ready an extra play for a benefit and have already used up the potential audience they can draw for their own performances. MUCH ADO supplies a ready-made production. Conference members would be assisting our Catholic-theatre-on-the-road venture as well as supplying extra funds for the Conference treasury by booking in the show and selling tickets for a benefit performance.

CATCH-UP NOTES

President Joseph F. Rice did eventually dispense with the arm cast he wore during the convention and for many weeks afterward.

It was a privilege and a pleasure to meet and become acquainted with so many directors during the convention. A trip to Catholic University before the close of the summer session afforded an opportunity to meet with many others. Attendance at a few theatre lectures at Fordham University found Conference directors there also.

Miss Anna Helen Reuter, Chicago director, played the important role of the mother in *THE SHOEMAKER'S HOUSE*, produced in the Fordham Little Theatre during the Summer Seminar.

Summer visitors to New York City and the Service Bureau included various representatives from the Catholic Theatre of Detroit and three young ladies from the Catholic Theatre Guild of Pittsburgh. The latter were interested in obtaining advance information on *CITY OF KINGS* for their own production this season.

Mr. Albert McCleery, former director of Fordham University Theatre, is now directing dramatic presentations for N.B.C. Television.

Catholic University Summer Season consisted of productions of: *ARMS AND THE MAN*, *SMALL BEER IN SPRINGTIME* and *THE BARBER OF SEVILLE*. Mr. Basil Langton directed the Shaw play; Sally Moormann Scharper directed the original comedy, which was the second production; Dick Sykes handled the closing one.

Fordham University presented *THE SHOEMAKER'S HOUSE* directed by Edgar L. Kloten; *DIVERTISSEMENT* in the Arena Theatre consisting of a Ballet, a Musical and a Chorale under the supervision of Albert McCleery. The ballet was an unusual presentation based on Francis Thompson "The Hound of Heaven". Anna Helen Reuter of Chicago directed the choral presentation "Creation". The summer season closed with a living newspaper presentation of Dorothy Hughes' *THE DELICATE APE* directed by Mr. McCleery, on main stage of Collins Hall. (Cont'd. - next column)

REGIONAL EVENTS

CENTRAL - Meeting of directors called by Sister M. Angelita, Chairman, August 17 in Chicago.

NEW ENGLAND - Regional meeting in Boston September 17 called by chairman, Sister M. Alicette.

NORTH-CENTRAL - Play Festival at Mount Marty Junior College, Yankton, South Dakota to be held November 4. Arrangements under the supervision of Unit Chairman, Sister M. Jeanette. Critic Judge will be Sister M. Charitas, North-Central Regional Chairman.

CENTRAL - Fifth Annual Chicago High School Play Festival November 25, 26 and 27.

NORTH-CENTRAL - High School Play Festival in Minneapolis November 26.

Reports on the above activities will be carried in subsequent issues.

CATCH-UP NOTES (Cont'd.)

Talent Review magazine, Hollywood, carried a two-page spread of Convention pictures.

Father M. D. Dubee and his delegation from Montreal represented the largest "traveling" attendance at the convention. Ten made the long trek by station-wagon and arrived on time despite blow-outs in the desert. Their monthly paper, *The Comedian*, carried an interesting map setting forth their itinerary via Detroit, Kansas City, Denver, the Grand Canyon, Santa Fe to Los Angeles. That was the "tentative" route.

Miss "Pat Conners", former office secretary of Father Dubee's group, St. Genesius Players' Guild, resigned to become a worker at Friendship House near Barry's Bay, Ontario.

Will Walsh, director at LaSalle College, Philadelphia and new Unit Chairman of the Mid-Atlantic Region, was among the summer visitors to the Service Bureau.

HEADS THEATRE DIVISION

Rev. Laurence J. McGinley, S.J., President of Fordham University, announced the appointment of Mr. Edgar L. Kloten as chairman of the Theatre Division and Director of the University Theatre.

Rev. Vincent dePaul O'Beirne, S.J. heads the Dept. of Communication Arts comprising Theatre, Radio, Journalism and Cinema.

NATIONAL CHILDREN'S THEATRE

The national convention of the Children's Theatre Committee of American Educational Theatre Assn., held in New York City August 29 through September 2, afforded our newly appointed Pacific Southwest Regional chairman, Mrs. Burdette Fitzgerald, an opportunity to visit the Conference office. Mrs. Fitzgerald is National Chairman of the Children's Theatre Committee and was the presiding officer for the convention.

Arrangements for the convention were under the chairmanship of Dr. W. Campton Bell of University of Denver, who served as critic judge last Feb. for our West-Central Regional Play Festival and meeting in Kansas City, Missouri. Dr. Bell in his visit to the Service Bureau told of plans to organize a Catholic theatre in Denver drawing upon Loretto Heights and Regis Colleges. Their first production is to be "Lady of Fatima".

Sessions of the convention were held at the Belmont-Plaza Hotel and Hunter College for five days of inspirational leadership in raising the standards in theatre for children. Talks, panels, actual demonstrations and play production filled the five days. A highlight was the performance of "Johnny Appleseed" by the Portland, Maine Trailer Theatre of teenagers presented in Central Park. Mr. Clarence Derwent, President of Equity, was the principal speaker at the closing luncheon.

Louise Horton of Detroit, speaker at our convention, and Madeleine Sinco of San Jose College, who attended our convention, were among those present at the Children's Theatre one ... a cross-country hop for them and Mrs. Fitzgerald, who resides in Oakland, California.

HEADS C.B.A.

Rev. Patrick Peyton, C.S.C., was elected chairman of the Catholic Broadcasters Association during their national convention held at Notre Dame University during the summer. Miss A. Dorothy Arthur continues as Co-ordinator.

Like all growing organizations the C.B.A. after two years of operating their Service Bureau with volunteer help voted to authorize their coordinator to hire help to relieve the pressure of work and to meet the demands of servicing members.

There has been and is quite an interchange of correspondence between our offices directing to each other inquiries received concerning radio and theatre needs, resulting in new members for both organizations.

ADDED NOTES

We trust you remembered the feast day of the Patron Saint of the Conference - St. Genesius - August 25 - and offered up a wee prayer for the intention of the Conference. We're certain, however, that he will listen to requests presented on other than his feast day. Let's place the success of the benefit performances in his hands as well as offering thanksgiving for the success of the convention and the Conference in general.

Virginia White Penhallow of Philadelphia Village, New York, and a student at Mount Aloysius Junior College, a Conference member, was accepted by the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London. She was one of 40 candidates auditioned in New York City and sailed this fall to begin her studies. Director at Mount Aloysius is Miss Ann M. Donoghue.

Latest contact abroad for the Conference is Frank Martin of the Don Bosco Players, Glasgow, Scotland. Mr. Martin is President of a section of Guild of Catholic Teachers, who produce four plays per year in and around Glasgow. The contact was made by Wm. Rabe, theatre columnist for the Michigan Catholic, who referred Mr. Martin to us.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

The following totals in the various categories of membership were presented in the secretary's report at the convention business meeting. The first column of figures shows June 1947 totals as compared with June 1949, indicating the increase in membership from one national convention to the next:

	'47	'49
Honorary Life Members	1	2
Life Members	0	1
Members	231	384
Subscribers	77	110
Sustaining Members	4	6
TOTALS	313	503

SECRETARY REPORT

A summary of Service Bureau report for the 20 months the current secretary had handled the office (i.e., Oct. 1, 1947 to Convention time - June '49) showed a total of 3,000 scripts circulated among the members and 3,500 letters written during that period.

The national play, "Lady of Fatima" had close to 100 productions for an unknown total of performances. \$156.00 were accrued as the Conference ten percent share of the royalties under the agreement with Father Nagle, author and Declan McMullen, publisher.

LIBRARY ADDITIONS

SLEEPING PRINCESS - an English translation of Henri Gheon's "La Belle Au Bois Dormant" published by Rosary College. Translation by Rita Jayne Deering. Royalty \$8.00. Permission to produce this play may be obtained upon payment of royalty. Applications for acting rights must be made to Rosary College, River Forest, Illinois. Cast of 28 plus extras. May be produced by mixed or all-girl cast. 3 acts.

TWENTY-FIVE PLAYS OF THE MODERN THEATRE edited by John Gassner, published by Crown Publishers 1949. Covers the modern American Theatre in its formative years, 1916-1929. Contains 25 complete plays that helped to make the American theatre modern and important, with which the

(Cont'd. - next column)

LIBRARY ADDITIONS (Cont'd.)

famous Provincetown Players and the Theatre Guild made the decade of 1920 the most exciting in stage history. Yet many of them are unobtainable elsewhere and some are completely out of print. Includes full length and one act plays.

BUILDING A CHARACTER - by Constantin Stanislavski, translated by Elizabeth Reynolds Hapgood with an introduction by Joshua Logan.

MADWOMAN OF CHAILLOT by Jean Giraudoux adapted by Maurice Valency. READING COPY only - script not available for non-professional production as it is still running on Broadway. For future reference it has two acts, two settings and a cast of 30 males and 11 females. Many of these are minor roles including the passers-by at the Cafe Terrace. Random House publication - \$2.50.

LARRY - 3 act play by Robert Illingsworth, published by Walter H. Baker Co. Comedy drama in a Prologue and 3 acts with one setting. 9 females, 13 males plus extras. Story of a college youth who had the courage of his convictions and the strength of character to hold on to his ideals. Royalty \$25.00.

JUDGE NOT - one act by Marion Howard, Baker publication. 5 females.

THE FROZEN HEART - one act by Ivory Brides - 5 females. Baker Publication.

VERSE READINGS FOR THE CATHOLIC CHILD by E. Quinlan published by Baker Co. Suited to sub-teen and teen age - divided into three classifications: religious, patriotic and miscellaneous. Selections suitable for Recital programs.

ABSENT MINDED PROFESSOR - comedy in 3 acts by L. Verne Slout - Baker Pub. Co. One setting - cast of 6 males and 6 females. The right of one amateur performance is granted with the purchase and payment of 10 copies or more. A special license for subsequent performances upon receipt of only \$2.50 for each performance.

GREAT EXPECTATIONS by Chas. Dickens. 7 males, 8 females, 3 acts, 2 settings. Royalty \$25.00.

ROYALTY REDUCTIONS 1949-50 SEASON

To members and sustaining members of the Catholic Theatre Conference the following reductions are available for this season. To obtain this membership dividend send us:

(1) the title of the play to be produced; (2) the date (s) of performance(s). We will certify your active membership to the publisher who will, in turn, bill you at the reduced rate. Under this plan negotiations must be made 30 days in advance of production. Please allow extra time for necessary preliminaries.

IMPORTANT:- The Service Bureau cannot arrange for reductions on plays not appearing on this year's list.

<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Controlled by:</u>	<u>List</u>	<u>CTC</u>	<u>Rate</u>
City of Kings	Rev. Urban Nagle, O.P.	Christopher Press	\$35	\$25-15-10	
Gentleman from Athens, The	Emmet Lavery	Samuel French Co.	\$50	\$35-\$25	
Lady of Fatima	Rev. Urban Nagle, O.P.	Declan McMullen Co.	\$35	\$25-15-10	
Minstrel Boy, The	W.L.S. Douglas	Catholic Theatre Conf.	\$35	\$25-15-10	
*Thy Kingdom Come	John McCabe	" " & author	\$25	\$15 *	
Voice in Rama, A	John Coppinger	" " " "	\$35	\$25-15-10	
*Special rates in case of protracted run.					

Negotiations are still under way for additions to the above list.

The following list is a repetition for the sake of new members and as a reminder to old members:

<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Controlled by:</u>	<u>List</u>	<u>CTC</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Day Star Rising, The	Sr. Miriam Fidelis, I.H.M.	Author	\$20	\$15	
Farce of the Hanged Man	Gheon/Musante	CTC	\$15	\$10	
Unhanged					
My Nature is Fire	St. Clara Academy	CTC	\$15	\$10	
Of His Own House	S.M.P.	Author	\$25	\$20	
Old Wang	Gheon/Sr. Constantia	CTC	\$10	\$ 5	
Queen Esther	J. J. Donohue	Author	\$25	\$20	
#St. Germaine of the Wolf	Sheed/Sr. Miriam	CTC	\$15	\$10 #	
Country					
#Song of Peace	Sister Miriam	CTC	\$15	\$10 #	
Sultan's Daughter, The	Gheon/Sr. Constantia	CTC	\$10	\$ 5	
Tinker's Dam	Kenan Carey, C.P.	Author	\$25	\$15	
Treasure Island	Stevenson/K.G. Schroeder	Adapter	\$25	\$15	
Wranglers, The	Racine/J.J. Donohue	Adapter	\$25	\$20	
Young American, The	Edwin Bronner	Author	\$25	\$20	

\$5.00 if no admission is charged.

If you are a new member and the bare titles on the CTC list mean nothing to you, don't hesitate to ask for brief identification of them. Almost all are in typed manuscript form.

DUES NOTICE

Dues for 1949-50 become payable with the beginning of the new fiscal year, i.e., October 1st. "Any member failing for two months to pay his dues shall be addressed by mail at his last known address with a notice of unpaid dues, signed by the Secretary-Treasurer, and the member shall be deemed lapsed and sufficiently notified". - BY LAW III, Section 3.

DON'T LET DECEMBER 1st creep up on you without those dues paid!

Subscriber \$3.00 - Member \$10.00 - Sustaining Member \$25.00 - Life Member \$200.00

